

Diesel Soot and Amine-Containing Organic Sulfate Aerosols in an Arctic Oil Field

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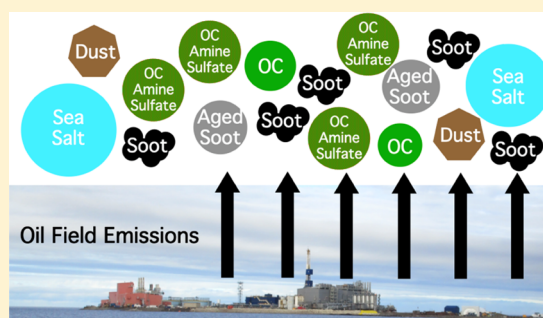
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Supporting Information

ABSTRACT: The rapid decrease in Arctic sea ice is motivating development and increasing oil and gas extraction activities. However, few observations of these local Arctic emissions exist, limiting the understanding of impacts on atmospheric composition and climate. To address this knowledge gap, the chemical composition of atmospheric aerosols was measured within the North Slope of Alaska oil fields during August and September 2016 using an aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ATOFMS) and a time-of-flight aerosol chemical speciation monitor (ToF-ACSM). Plumes from oil and gas extraction activities were characterized by soot internally mixed with sulfate (matching diesel soot) and organic carbon particles containing aminium sulfate salts. Sea spray aerosol at the coastal site was frequently internally mixed with sulfate and nitrate, from multiphase chemical processing from elevated NO_x and SO₂ within the oil field. Background (nonplume) air masses were characterized by aged combustion aerosol. No periods of “clean” (nonpolluted) Arctic air were observed. The composition of the nonrefractory aerosol measured with the ACSM was similar during plume and background periods and was consistent with the mass concentrations of nonrefractory particles measured by ATOFMS. Two ultrafine aerosol growth events were observed during oil field background periods and were correlated with fine mode amine-containing particles.



INTRODUCTION

The Arctic is now more accessible to oil exploration and development,^{1,2} as surface temperatures are increasing at nearly twice the global average^{3,4} and sea ice is rapidly declining.^{5–7} An estimated 30% of the world’s undiscovered gas and 13% of the undiscovered oil are located in the Arctic.⁸ In 2016, Alaska sold new leases for over 2400 km² of land for oil and gas extraction on the North Slope of Alaska and in the Beaufort Sea; this was the second-largest sale since 1998.⁹ Similar expansions are occurring elsewhere, particularly in Russia and Norway.⁸

Oil and gas extraction activities emit particulate matter (PM),^{10,11} with negative effects on air quality and human health.¹² Atmospheric particles impact climate^{4,10} by scattering or absorbing incoming solar radiation, acting as cloud condensation and ice nuclei, and altering snow albedo.¹³ Arctic oil and gas extraction activities in 2004 are estimated to have emitted 15 kt black carbon (BC) and 16 kt organic carbon (OC), with total emissions of 47 kt of PM.¹⁰ These activities also emitted 150 kt of SO₂, 160 kt of NO_x (NO + NO₂), and 120 kt of nonmethane volatile organic com-

pounds.¹⁰ These trace gases can oxidize in the atmosphere forming lower volatility compounds, which condense to form secondary aerosol.¹² Local Arctic BC sources are simulated to have a greater impact on Arctic climate than transported BC,^{14–16} with recent assessments suggesting that BC is underpredicted by models by an average factor of 2.5 in the Arctic.¹⁷ The prediction and global transportation of BC from various source regions have been improved in recent years.^{18–20} However, large uncertainties still remain for inventories of local Arctic emissions.²¹ Winiger et al.²⁰ examined PM carbon isotopes across five circum-Arctic sites and found that 61%, on average, of annual mean BC was from fossil fuel combustion, with the highest fossil fuel influence (85%) at Utqiagvik (Barrow), Alaska.

There have only been a few studies that have examined emissions from Arctic oil and gas extraction activities.^{22–29}

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Measurements in the Norwegian Arctic showed increased NO_x , SO_2 , and BC in plumes originating from offshore extraction facilities.²⁶ Ground- and aircraft-based campaigns within and downwind of the North Slope of Alaska oil fields have shown elevated BC, NO_x , SO_2 , CO_2 , CH_4 , and cloud condensation nuclei (CCN) concentrations.^{22–24,29,30}

The distribution of chemical species across the aerosol population, or mixing state, determines individual particle properties, including optical properties (scattering/absorption), hygroscopicity, toxicity, and chemical reactivity.^{12,31} Uncertainties in the BC mixing state have contributed to uncertainties in the estimations of BC climate impacts in the Arctic.³² Single-particle mass spectrometry directly measures the chemical composition and mixing state of individual particles.³³ Unique, source-specific mass spectral signatures³⁴ are used to identify the source of each individual particle. Single-particle mass spectrometry can differentiate between gasoline, diesel, residual fuel, coal, and biomass combustion emissions.^{35–42}

The sources, chemical composition, and mixing states of atmospheric aerosols from Arctic oil field emissions were investigated through measurements within the North Slope of Alaska (Prudhoe Bay) oil fields during August and September 2016 at Oliktok Point, Alaska. An aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ATOFMS) measured the size and chemical composition of individual particles⁴³ and a time-of-flight aerosol chemical speciation monitor (ToF-ACSM) measured the nonrefractory aerosol chemical composition.^{44,45} The aerosol composition and concentrations within combustion plumes and regional oil field background air masses are compared.

EXPERIMENTAL SECTION

Field Site and Instrumentation. The field campaign was conducted from August 22 to September 17, 2016 at Oliktok Point, Alaska, at the Department of Energy (DOE) Atmospheric Radiation Measurement (ARM) Mobile Facility (AMF3) (70°29′41.4″ N, 149°53′10.9″ W). The surrounding oil fields are located both onshore and offshore and cover an area of over 14 000 km² of land and ocean (Figure 1, <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov>). The Beaufort Sea is located ~0.5 km to the north, northwest, and northeast and ~1 km to the east of the site. Meteorological data, including wind speed, wind direction, relative humidity, and temperature, were collected with a Vaisala WXT520 weather transmitter at a height of ~10 m.⁴⁶ Radiation data were obtained from the ARM Sky Radiometers on Stand for Downwelling Radiation (SKY-RAD).⁴⁷ Carbon dioxide (CO_2) was measured by a cavity ringdown spectrometer (model G2301, Picarro) from a height of ~10 m.⁴⁸

A time-of-flight aerosol chemical speciation monitor (ToF-ACSM)^{44,45} is part of the suite of instruments operated by the ARM program at Oliktok Point. The ToF-ACSM-measured speciated mass loadings averaged over 30 min. It has a mass resolution of $m/\Delta m = 600$ and detection limits of ~0.30 ng m⁻³ for a 30 min signal average. A collection efficiency of 0.5 was applied to the ACSM mass concentration.⁴⁴ Positive matrix factorization was performed for the ACSM organic aerosol (OA) mass spectra,^{49–51} and two factors were identified: hydrocarbon-like OA (HOA) and oxygenated OA (OOA).^{44,52}

An aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ATOFMS), described below, measured the size-resolved chemical

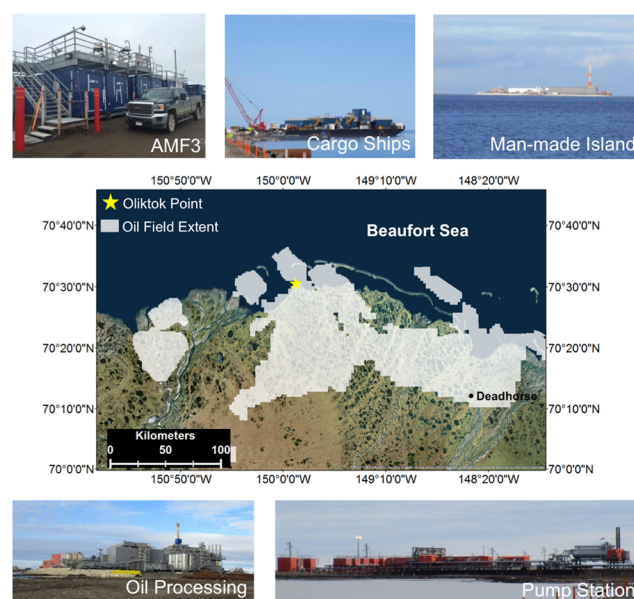


Figure 1. Map of North Slope of Alaska oil fields and images of local emission sources near the AMF3 field site (yellow star). The map background was provided by ArcGIS 10.3.1 with the World Imagery basemap (sources: Esri, DigitalGlobe, GeoEye, Earthstar Geographics, CNES/Airbus DS, USDA, USGS, AeroGRID, IGN, and the GIS User Community). Oil field extent was obtained from <http://dog.dnr.alaska.gov>. Photo credit: Matthew Gunsch.

composition of individual particles.⁴³ BC mass concentrations were measured online (5 min resolution) by a seven-wavelength aethalometer (model AE42, Magee Scientific) and corrected following the procedure described by Schmid et al.⁵³ Aerosol particle size distributions (13–746 nm mobility diameter, d_m , and 0.5–20 μm aerodynamic diameter, d_a) were measured using a scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS, model 3082, TSI, Inc.) and an aerodynamic particle sizer (APS, model 3321, TSI, Inc.), respectively. Using the method of Khlystov et al.,⁵⁴ the SMPS and APS size distributions were combined into a continuous size distribution from 0.013 to 2.5 μm (d_a), assuming a shape factor of 1 and a density of 1.5 g cm⁻³. The air sampled by these instruments was collected through an inlet at a height of 5.4 m through a PM₁₀ Teflon-coated aluminum cyclone (URG Corporation) at a flow rate of 40 L min⁻¹. The flow was split with a stainless steel cylindrical manifold into foam-insulated copper sampling lines for each of the instruments.

Single-Particle Mass Spectrometry. An aerosol time-of-flight mass spectrometer (ATOFMS), based on the design of Pratt et al.,⁴³ measured the size and chemical composition of 32 880 individual particles from 0.07 to 1.6 μm (vacuum aerodynamic diameter) in real time. Briefly, particles were focused through an aerodynamic lens system and entered the sizing region as a narrow, collimated beam. Particle diameter was calibrated using 0.09–2 μm polystyrene latex spheres (Polysciences, Inc.) with a density of 1 g cm⁻³. Particle diameters were determined by measuring the time each particle took to traverse two continuous wave lasers (50 mW of 405 nm and 50 mW of 488 nm, Coherent Technol.). The particles then entered a dual-polarity reflectron time-of-flight mass spectrometer (Tofwerk) and were individually desorbed and ionized by a 266 nm Nd:YAG pulsed laser (Centurion, Quantel, Inc.), operating at 0.8–1.2 mJ, resulting in positive

and negative ion mass spectra. The sample stream and particles were dried in-line through two silica gel diffusion driers. Negative ion mass spectra were collected for only 63% of particles, by number, because of water accumulation that suppressed negative ion formation,⁵⁵ as commonly observed in other marine environments.⁵⁶

Individual particle mass spectra were imported and analyzed in FATES, a custom single-particle mass spectrometer analysis toolkit for MATLAB (MathWorks).⁵⁷ Individual particle mass spectra were clustered based on the presence and intensity of ion peaks using an ART-2a neural network algorithm with a vigilance factor of 0.8 and a learning rate of 0.05 for 20 iterations.⁵⁸ The resulting clusters were grouped into eight unique groups, each representing an individual particle type, based on the most likely m/z assignments, according to ion ratios and spectral identification from previous studies.³⁴ Note that the individual particle mass spectra were grouped by ART-2a based on the overall similarity in ion presence and intensity, with the particle class names reflecting the majority composition; however, due to individual particle heterogeneity, some particles within a given particle type may not have every signature peak in the average mass spectra of that particle type.

Using the method of Qin et al.,⁵⁹ ATOFMS particle numbers were scaled using the SMPS and APS data to obtain chemically resolved number and mass concentrations. A set of effective densities were applied to convert from number to mass concentration based on previously reported composition-dependent densities^{60–67} and a comparison of the ATOFMS and SMPS/APS size distributions: OC (1 g cm^{-3}), elemental carbon (EC) (1.3 g cm^{-3}), OC–amine–sulfate (1.5 g cm^{-3}), EC and OC (ECOC) (1.2 g cm^{-3}), incineration particles (1.8 g cm^{-3}), mineral dust (2 g cm^{-3}), biomass burning (1.4 g cm^{-3}), and sea spray aerosol (1.8 g cm^{-3}).

Radiocarbon. Total suspended particulate matter samples were collected on quartz fiber filters using a HI-Q high volume sampler (HVP-5300AFC; HI-Q Environmental Products Company, Inc.). Samples were collected for 4–7 days each at a flow rate of $1.2 \text{ m}^3 \text{ min}^{-1}$. Analysis for OC and EC utilized the NIOSH 5040 method⁶⁸ and a thermal–optical transmittance carbon analyzer (Sunset Laboratories). EC harvested from the samples was analyzed for radiocarbon abundance at the Woods Hole National Oceanic Sciences Accelerator Mass Spectrometry facility; sample preparation and data analysis were performed following the method described by Yoon et al.⁶⁹

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Single-Particle Chemical Characterization. Eight unique individual particle types were identified by ATOFMS for August 22–September 17, 2016. These were sea spray aerosol (SSA), EC, ECOC, OC–amine–sulfate, OC, biomass burning, mineral dust, and incineration particles (Figures 2, 3, and S1). The average contributions of biomass burning, mineral dust, and incineration particles were 8, 3, and 1%, respectively, of the $0.07\text{--}1.6 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ particle number concentrations. This analysis focuses on the most abundant particle types: EC, ECOC, OC–amine–sulfate, OC, and SSA. Mass spectra of the minor particle types are described in the Supporting Information.

Single-particle SSA mass spectra were characterized by positive ion peaks at m/z 23 (Na^+) and 81, 83 (Na_2Cl^+), as well as negative ion peaks at m/z -35 , -37 (Cl^-), and -93 , -95 (NaCl_2^-).⁷⁰ SSA was primarily observed at diameters

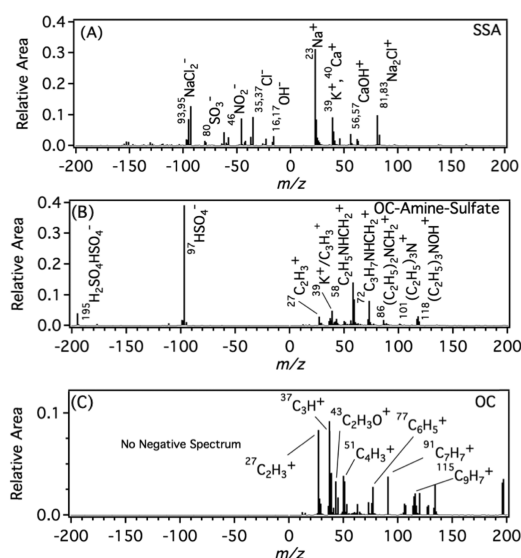


Figure 2. Average individual particle ATOFMS mass spectra for major particle types observed: (A) sea spray aerosol (SSA), (B) organic carbon (OC)–amine–sulfate, and (C) OC.

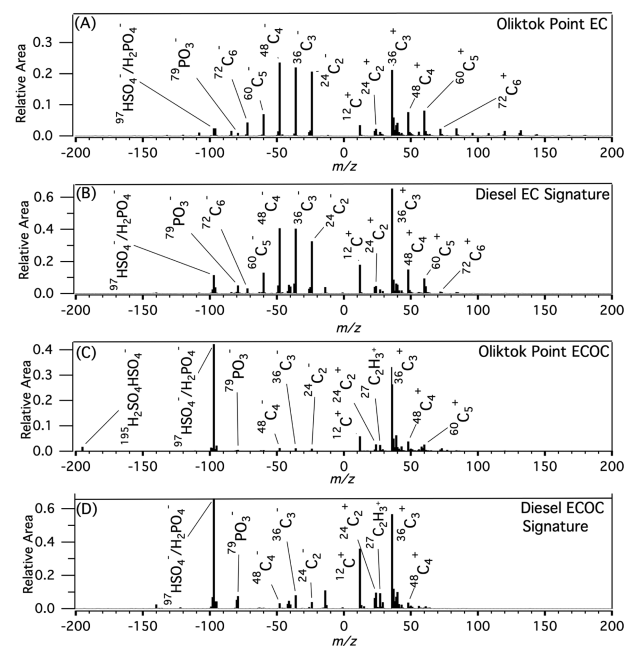


Figure 3. Average individual particle ATOFMS EC (A) and ECOC (C) mass spectra observed at Ooliktok Point, compared to diesel combustion EC (B) and ECOC (D) ATOFMS mass spectral signatures from source studies by Toner et al.³⁷

above $0.6 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ but with some particles as small as $0.2 \text{ }\mu\text{m}$ (Figure S5). These observations are consistent with previous summertime measurements in the Alaskan Arctic.^{27,71}

Individual OC particles were identified by peaks at m/z 27 (C_2H_3^+), 37 (C_3H^+), and 43 ($\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$), from both hydrocarbon and oxidized (secondary) OC compounds.^{60,72,73} Additional peaks at m/z 51 (C_4H_3^+), 77 (C_6H_5^+), 91 (C_7H_7^+), and 115 (C_9H_7^+) are consistent with aromatic hydrocarbons and suggestive of a combustion source.^{36,73} Negative ion mass spectra were not observed for these OC particles because of ion suppression from water accumulation.⁵⁵ These OC particles were present across both

submicron and supermicron size ranges (Figure S5), consistent with aged particles that had accumulated secondary material during atmospheric transport.

OC–amine–sulfate particles were characterized by OC (e.g., m/z 27, $C_2H_3^+$) and sulfate (m/z –97, HSO_4^-) ion markers, as well as unique contributions from diethylamine (DEA, m/z 58, 72, $C_2H_5NHCH_2^+$, $C_3H_7NHCH_2^+$), trimethylamine (TMA, m/z 59, $N(CH_3)_3^+$), triethylamine (TEA, m/z 86, 101, $(C_2H_5)_2NCH_2^+$, $(C_2H_5)_3N^+$), and triethylamine-oxide (TEAO, m/z 118, $(C_2H_5)_3NOH^+$) (Figure 2).⁷⁴ Average number and mass fractions of OC–amine–sulfate particles through the study were 34 and 32%, respectively. Internally mixed amine and sulfate particles are consistent with the presence of nonvolatile aminium sulfate salts,⁷⁵ particularly given the minimal ammonium (m/z 18, NH_4^+), which was only observed in 23% of the OC–amine–sulfate particles. The OC–amine–sulfate particle mass spectra also included sulfuric acid (m/z –195, $H_2SO_4HSO_4^-$), indicative of particle acidity^{75,76} and required for the formation of aminium sulfate salts.^{75,77} The particles had intense peaks corresponding to ethylamines. Diethylamine and triethylamine are typically associated with anthropogenic sources, including vehicular combustion and industrial processes.^{74,78,79} Nearby onshore well drilling, oil extraction, pipeline operation, gas-fired turbines and heaters, flares, gas processing facilities, seawater treatment facilities, wastewater treatment facilities, and mobile vehicular emissions are all possible sources, which may have contributed to the amine-containing particles observed. In addition, there was influence from marine biogenic amines, including TMA, which has been observed in aerosols in the Canadian Archipelago,^{80,81} as well as Antarctica.^{82,83} Recent work in the Antarctic shows a marine source of DEA contributing to aerosols.⁸² As discussed below, the OC–amine–sulfate particles were most abundant during oil field plumes, suggesting that these particles were primarily anthropogenic in origin.

EC (soot) particle mass spectra featured both positive and negative carbon cluster ions ($C_n^{+/-}$), along with phosphate at m/z –79 (PO_3^-) (Figure 3).^{31,37,84} ECOC particles were identified by carbon cluster ions ($C_n^{+/-}$), OC (m/z 27, $C_2H_3^+$),⁸⁵ oxidized OC (m/z 43, $C_2H_3O^+$),⁶⁰ sulfate (m/z –97, HSO_4^-), and sulfuric acid (m/z –195, $H_2SO_4HSO_4^-$). The average EC and ECOC mass spectra were compared to ATOFMS mass spectra from combustion source studies, following the method described by Toner et al.,³⁷ by calculating the dot products between the ambient and source mass spectra to quantify their similarity. A higher dot product indicates greater similarity between the ambient and source particle mass spectra, whereas a lower dot product indicates less similarity.^{34,76} The mass spectra of EC and ECOC showed a high degree of similarity with those of the top two diesel particle types,³⁷ with dot products of 0.94 and 0.93 for EC and ECOC, respectively (Figure 3). Notably, the presence of phosphate in the EC particle mass spectra is because of phosphate-based additives in lubricating oils used in diesel engines.⁷² These diesel soot particles are consistent with the prevalence of diesel combustion in the oil fields. Comparing carbonaceous particle types to mass spectra from gasoline-powered combustion³⁷ resulted in dot products less than 0.75, further confirming the minimal influence of gasoline combustion within the oil fields. Previous carbon isotope measurements show a small gas flaring contribution to BC on

the North Slope of Alaska,²⁰ suggesting only minor contribution to the observed EC and ECOC.

The ACSM measured the nonrefractory mass concentrations of OA, sulfate, nitrate, and ammonium in PM_1 (Figure 5). These species were internally mixed within the OC, OC–amine–sulfate, ECOC, and biomass burning particles, measured by ATOFMS (Figure 2). The sum of the mass concentrations of the primarily nonrefractory particles measured by ATOFMS (OC–amine–sulfate, OC, and biomass burning particles) was correlated with ($R = 0.66$, Figure S6), and higher by an average of 31% than, the sum of the nonrefractory mass measured by the ACSM. Note that this 31% difference is in line with the ~30% uncertainty of the instruments.^{86,87} A small mass fraction of the biomass burning particles consisted of refractory salts, including potassium sulfate,⁸⁸ contributing to the high bias. The larger particle size range of 0.07–1.6 μm of the ATOFMS, compared to 0.04–1 μm for ACSM, also contributed to the lower ACSM-measured mass loadings. The remaining 37% of the ATOFMS-measured mass, on average, consisted of refractory SSA, EC, mineral dust, and incineration particles, as expected for the coastal oil field site.

Oil Field Plume Characterization. Oil and gas extraction emissions impact the Oliktok field site all of the time and from all directions (Figure 1). The site was frequently in plumes, characterized by BC mass concentrations greater than 0.2 $\mu g\ m^{-3}$, as measured by the aethalometer, and CO_2 mole ratios greater than 397 ppm. Both BC and CO_2 , at these levels, are indicative of combustion within the oil fields.^{22,23} The site was in combustion plumes 29% of the time between August 22 and September 17, 2016 and in background air masses the remainder of the time (Figure 5), as discussed in the following section.

Elevated $PM_{2.5}$ number and mass concentrations of 1400 particles cm^{-3} and 2.6 $\mu g\ m^{-3}$, on average, were observed within plume periods, based on SMPS and APS measurements. These events primarily consisted of sub-100 nm particles with the average particle number mode of 50 nm (Figure S2), indicating the presence of fresh combustion emissions.⁸⁹ A Kolmogorov–Smirnov goodness-of-fit statistical test shows that above 200 nm the aerosol number distributions during plume and oil field background air mass periods were statistically similar ($\sigma = 0.05$). This indicates that the plumes are primarily adding trace gas precursors and ultrafine particles to the background aerosol distribution.

During the study, 15 682 individual particles ranging from 0.07 to 1.6 μm were chemically characterized by ATOFMS within direct plumes (Figure S5). When the maximum number concentrations were observed on August 27 and 28, ~80% of the 0.07–1.6 μm particles, by number, corresponded to EC and ECOC (Figure 5). This was a relatively stagnant period with low winds of 3 $m\ s^{-1}$ (Figure S3) when diesel-fueled heavy machinery moved an oil rig on a road located ~1 km to the east of the site.

The particle number concentrations within plumes were dominated by carbonaceous particles, including 36% EC, 11% ECOC, 5% OC, and 23% OC–amine–sulfate particles (Figures 4 and 5). EC particles were primarily less than 200 nm and accounted for 40%, by number, of the 70–200 nm particles during both plume and oil field background periods (Figure S5). OC–amine–sulfate particles were primarily detected with diameters less than 700 nm and contributed ~60%, by number, between 300 and 500 nm (Figure S5).

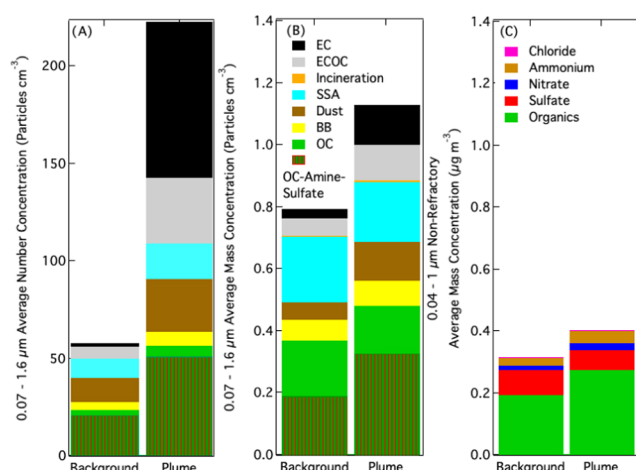


Figure 4. Chemically resolved average (A) number and (B) mass concentrations for 0.07–1.6 μm particles, measured by ATOFMS, and (C) mass concentrations of nonrefractory species measured by ACSM within 0.04–1 μm particles, during oil field background and direct plume air mass influence periods at Oliktok Point, AK.

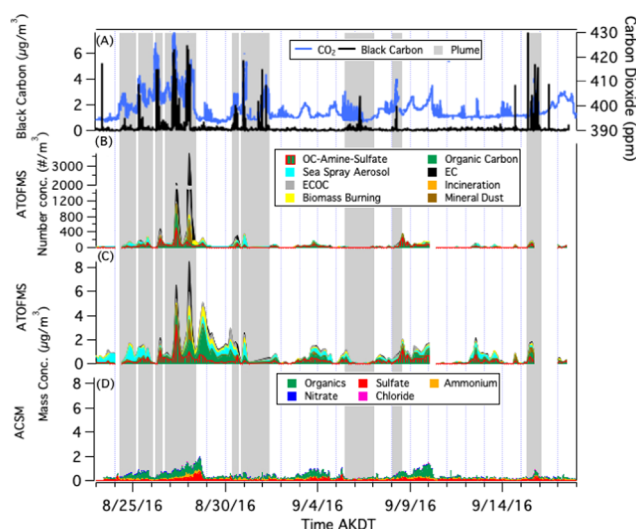


Figure 5. (A) Black carbon (BC) mass concentrations and CO₂ mole ratios; a 3 h time resolution chemically resolved (B) number and (C) mass concentrations, based on ATOFMS measurements (0.07–1.6 μm); and (D) 0.5 h time resolution nonrefractory species mass concentrations by ACSM within 0.04–1 μm particles.

Sulfate was internally mixed within 97% of ECOC and 91% of OC–amine–sulfate particles, by number. Only 29% of the EC particles, by number, contained sulfate. The average mass concentrations of 0.13 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ EC, 0.11 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ ECOC, and 0.33 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ OC–amine–sulfate particles were observed and elevated compared to that during background periods (Figure 4). Consistent with the combustion influence, the average HOA mass concentration, as measured by the ACSM, was 0.15 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ within the plumes and was $\sim 20\%$ higher than the 0.12 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ OOA (Figure S7). PM_{2.5} BC mass concentrations measured by the aethalometer averaged 0.43 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ during plumes, with brief, extreme spikes up to a maximum of 7.6 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ on August 28.

Measurements of filter-based EC concentrations and radiocarbon apportionment were completed for the plume period of August 24–28 (Figure 5) and a similarly high EC period at the end of the study from September 18 to 21, 2016. The EC

concentrations were 0.19 ± 0.02 and $0.24 \pm 0.03 \mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ for the August and September periods, respectively. The EC fraction corresponding to fossil fuel, rather than modern carbon (e.g., biomass burning), was $81 \pm 8\%$ for the August period and $90 \pm 12\%$ for the September period, further confirming that the EC was dominated by local fossil sources during plume periods. Note that the filter-based EC concentrations were lower than BC during plume periods, primarily due to the different time resolution of the measurements (4–7 day filter samples vs 5 min resolution).

Even during plumes, SSA accounted for $\sim 20\%$ of the observed mass at an average of 0.22 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and contributed $\sim 40\%$, by number, to the 0.8–1.6 μm particles (Figures 4 and S5) because the ocean was approximately 0.5 km away. During the plume periods, the average number fractions of SSA particles containing nitrate and sulfate were 77 and 40%, respectively. To investigate differences in SSA composition between the plume and background periods, the average dual-polarity SSA mass spectrum during plumes was subtracted from the average spectrum during background periods (Figure S8). The SSA particles in the plumes had increased intensities in sodium nitrate (m/z –131, $\text{NaNO}_2\text{NO}_3^-$ and –147, $\text{Na}(\text{NO}_3)_2^-$) and sodium sulfate (m/z –119, NaSO_4^- and +165, Na_3SO_4^+); increased intensities in nitrate (m/z –46, NO_2^- , and –62, NO_3^-) and sulfate (m/z –80, SO_2^-) and decreased intensities in chloride (m/z –35, –37, Cl^-), were also observed. Note that m/z –80 is used to identify sulfate due to an interference with NaCl_2^- at m/z –97.⁶⁰ The internal mixing of sulfate and nitrate with SSA is evidence of multiphase processing within the combustion plumes.^{90,91}

Oil Field Background Aerosol Characterization. When direct plumes were not observed at the site, the winds were typically from the prevailing north/northeast and represented oil field background air mass conditions (Figure S3). Average PM_{2.5} number and concentrations were 307 particles cm⁻³ and 1.2 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively, with a particle number mode of 105 nm (Figures S2 and S4). These background concentrations are higher than those observed during August–September at other Arctic locations, including Station Nord, Greenland (227 particles cm⁻³),⁹² Tiksi, Russia (222 particles cm⁻³),⁹³ Eureka and Alert, Canada (with field campaign medians ranging from 100 to 250 particles cm⁻³),⁹⁴ Utqiagvik, AK (190 particles cm⁻³, when under Arctic Ocean influence),²⁷ and the central Arctic Ocean (90–210 particles cm⁻³).⁹⁵ PM_{2.5} BC measurements from the aethalometer showed an average mass concentration of 0.067 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, which is above the upper threshold (0.05 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$) for clean marine environments.⁹⁶ These data support that the “background” periods were more representative of regional oil field conditions than a “clean” Arctic background.

During oil field background periods, the ATOFMS chemically analyzed 17,198 particles between 0.07 and 1.6 μm . The periods were primarily characterized by carbonaceous particles, including OC–amine–sulfate and OC particles, at 54% by number and 58% by mass (Figure 4), because of the regional influence from oil and gas extraction activities. Sulfate and oxidized OC (m/z 43, $\text{C}_2\text{H}_3\text{O}^+$)⁶⁰ were internally mixed within 89 and 50%, respectively, of OC–amine–sulfate particles, by number, and 95 and 56% of ECOC particles, by number, respectively. This is consistent with the atmospheric aging within the oil fields. During background periods, average ACSM OA and sulfate mass concentrations were 0.192 and

0.014 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$, respectively. OOA averaged 0.16 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ and was 4 times higher than HOA at 0.04 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$.

During background periods, 25% of the 0.07–1.6 μm particle mass was composed of SSA (average 0.20 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$), similar to the plume periods. Considering periods not impacted by plumes, ATOFMS mass concentrations reached a maximum of 5 $\mu\text{g m}^{-3}$ on August 29, due in part to locally produced SSA (Figure 5) during a period of elevated wind speeds ($\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$) (Figure S3). The SSA mass spectra were characterized by Na_xCl_y ions at m/z 81, 83 (Na_2Cl^+), 58, 60 (NaCl^-), -93 , -95 (NaCl_2^-), and -151 , -153 , -155 , -157 (Na_2Cl_3^-), as well as chloride at m/z -35 , -37 (Cl^-), consistent with the locally produced SSA (Figure S8). The Na_xCl_y ion peaks were more intense in these oil field background SSA particles compared to those of plume period SSA particles (Figure S8), indicative of less atmospheric aging. During oil field background periods, 45 and 16% of the SSA, by number, were internally mixed with nitrate and sulfate, respectively. For these aged SSA, complete chloride displacement had not occurred, similar to previous observations in Utqiagvik, AK, during oil field air mass influence.²⁷

Ultrafine Particle Growth. Ultrafine particle growth was observed from August 24 to 27 during an oil field background period (Figure 6); this period was not included in the

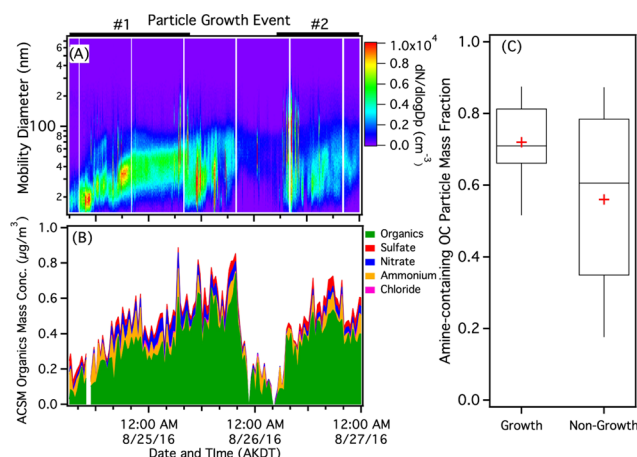


Figure 6. (A) Aerosol number concentration size distributions (14–740 nm, mobility diameter) during two particle growth events that occurred from August 24 06:00 to August 25 20:00 AKDT and August 26 06:00 to August 27 00:00. (B) Mass concentrations of the nonrefractory species measured by ACSM. (C) Mass fractions of amine-containing particles, compared to the sum of all predominately OC particles (OC–amine–sulfate, OC, and biomass burning), for the growth, compared to nongrowth, time periods of the study. The boxes show the 25th, 50th, and 75th percentile values; the whiskers show the 5th and 95th percentile values, with the markers showing average values.

previously discussed background averages. Two individual events were observed: August 24 06:00–August 25 20:00 AKDT and August 26 06:00–August 27 00:00. The wind direction did not change during each growth period, suggesting that the observed particle growth was not solely associated with dilution in a shifting plume (Figure S3). The events both had starting diameters of $\sim 20 \text{ nm}$ and ending diameters of $\sim 50 \text{ nm}$, with average growth rates of 0.8 and 1.6 nm h^{-1} , respectively (Figure 6). During the growth events, the winds were relatively stagnant at $\sim 4 \text{ m s}^{-1}$, with increased solar radiation and temperature of 132 W m^{-2} and 9 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, compared

to the study averages of 69 W m^{-2} and 3 $^{\circ}\text{C}$, respectively. Both growth events began during condensation sink⁹⁷ minima of $\sim 2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$, compared to the study average of $2 \times 10^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$, though the average is skewed high due to brief, but intense, increases in particle number concentrations within plumes (Figure S9). While this condensation sink is orders of magnitude higher than previously observed during particle growth in the clean Arctic ($2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ s}^{-1}$),⁹⁸ stagnant winds combined with elevated oxidants and condensable material from oil field emissions likely contributed to the observed aerosol growth. Condensation sinks of $\sim 2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$ were also observed between September 5 and 10 (Figure S9); however, elevated wind speeds of $\sim 10 \text{ m s}^{-1}$ during this period likely hindered particle growth.

During the two growth events, the mass fraction of amine-containing (OC–amine–sulfate) particles, relative to the predominately organic particles (OC–amine–sulfate, OC, and biomass burning), (0.72) was significantly higher than during the rest of the study (0.56), as shown in Figures 6 and S10. Figure 6B shows that the mass concentration of organics, as measured by ACSM, also increased during the growth events, consistent with the contribution of condensing organics to particle growth. With lower volatility than ammonium sulfate,⁹⁹ ammonium salts contribute to new particle formation and growth^{80,82,100–103} with greater contributions expected at lower temperatures.¹⁰⁴ Previous studies in other locations, including the Canadian Archipelago,^{80,103} have also observed increased contributions from submicron amine-containing particles during particle growth events.^{105,106} The likely contribution of ammonium sulfate salts, originating from the oil fields, to the observed particle growth may explain observations by Kolesar et al.⁹⁸ who found particle growth at Utqiagvik, AK, to preferentially occur in air masses influenced by the North Slope of Alaska oil fields, compared to that of Arctic Ocean air masses.

Atmospheric Implications. Here, we report the first online chemical characterization of atmospheric particles in the North Slope of Alaska (Prudhoe Bay) oil fields, located in the coastal Arctic. The site was constantly influenced by oil field emissions. Combustion plumes originating from nearby oil and gas extraction facilities were characterized. The vast majority of particles within the plumes were ultrafine particles, attributed to combustion. Plumes primarily consisted of soot and organic carbon-containing particles, by both number and mass, and over 90% of these particles, by number, were internally mixed with sulfate, from the oxidation of SO_2 emitted within the oil fields. Soot in the form of EC and ECOC particles primarily originated from diesel combustion, in agreement with recent pan-Arctic carbon isotope measurements.²⁰ The presence of sulfate and oxidized organic carbon coatings on soot particles may increase absorption^{31,107–110} and CCN activity.¹⁷ OC–amine–sulfate particle concentrations were elevated within oil field plumes and are attributed to oil field industrial emissions. Ammonium sulfate salts likely contributed to observed particle growth and may explain the preferential aerosol growth observed at Utqiagvik, AK, during oil-field-influenced air masses, compared to that of clean Arctic Ocean air masses.⁹⁸ During both oil field background and plume periods, sea spray aerosol contributed ~ 20 –25% to particle mass concentrations at the coastal site. Compared to the Arctic background, recent cloud measurements showed increased CCN concentrations and lower mean effective radii of cloud droplets above and downwind of the North Slope of Alaska oil fields, leading to

suppressed drizzle production and precipitation.³⁰ With ongoing Arctic development,⁸ local combustion emissions are expected to have increasing importance for climate feedbacks and air quality.²¹

■ ASSOCIATED CONTENT

Supporting Information

The Supporting Information is available free of charge at <https://pubs.acs.org/doi/10.1021/acs.est.9b04825>.

Additional information found in the supplemental include ATOFMS particle-type classification descriptions, size-resolved number and mass concentrations, comparison of ACSM and ATOFMS observations, meteorological parameters, chemically and size-resolved particle number fractions, SSA mass spectral comparison during oil field background and plume periods, and condensation sink plots (PDF)

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Notes

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